

(ESTABLISHED JAN. 1, 1914)

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, SEPT. 23, 1954

In The NEWS



**ENTERS SERVICE . . .** Bill Bloomfield, Torrance HERALD circulation district manager and son of Mr. and Mrs. K. W. Bloomfield, of 17224 Wilde Ave., left Friday to begin training in the U.S. Air Force at Parks Air Force Base. Bloomfield graduated from Torrance High School.



**NAMED CHIEF . . .** Advanced to post of Chief Design Engineer with General Petroleum Corp. this week was Leo A. Caster, who joined the company in 1943. Caster played on the University of California's winning 1937 Rose Bowl team.



**RETURNS . . .** Congressman Cecl R. King is back from Washington to launch an all-out re-election campaign.



**SEEKS CHANGE . . .** County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn today leveled protests at the necessity for voting on unopposed Superior Court judges on the primary ballot. He recommends a change in the State constitution to eliminate the "confusion."



**ORDNANCE HEAD VISITS . . .** More than \$100 million in research and development contracts have been let in the Los Angeles area, making it the first in volume for the country, Maj. Gen. Leslie E. Simon said, during a recent visit to the Harvey Alumnum division at Torrance. Gen Simon, the chief of the research and development division of the Army Ordnance Corps is shown here talking to Leo M. Harvey, chairman of the board at Harvey Machine and Harvey Alumnum.

HULL SAYS

Educators Like School Report

The Torrance School Board's annual report has received comment and requests for more copies from many school superintendents in this area, School Superintendent J. H. Hull told the Torrance Educational Advisory Council Monday.

The four-page report, consisting of several charts, a number of figures, and accompanying commentary is easily readable, he said, and far superior to lengthier, hard-to-read compilations.

In addition to providing a brief summary of school activities, the pamphlet also serves as a good teacher recruiting device, he said.

Although schools have an important job to do, the home is more important in developing children, he told the assembled group.

**Parent Instruction Siated**  
A series of instruction periods for parents will be held later this year, Vernon Sheblak, director of adult education at Torrance High School, announced.

The series has been tentatively scheduled to include a forum for parents on how to answer children's questions, a talk by a psychiatrist, a discussion of teenage problems, and other parent education discussions, he said.

Twentyseven persons have already made inquiry about obtaining high school diplomas through adult education classes this year, Sheblak said.

Beside offering classes for high school credit, vocational, home-

making, citizenship, and parent training classes are offered, he pointed out. This year, no classes in dancing or physical education can be offered because an act of the legislature.

He is seeking to make adult education programs meet community need, have a well-balanced spread, be financially sound, and serve all of Torrance, Sheblak told the group.

Declaring that the city must plan for "today, tomorrow, and the future," City Manager George Stevens urged the group to support the coming bond issues for a new civic center and swimming pool.

Nominations for election of officers will be made at the October meeting, Hull announced, with elections in November.

Robert Aber Serving As Submarine Crewman

Chief Engineman Robert E. Aber, of 2257 W. 250th St., Lomita, is now serving aboard the Pearl Harbor-based submarine, USS Stickleback.

WITH THE SERVICE CLUBS

Elks Aided War, Helped Charity

(This is the fourth of a series of articles on the history of the Elks, carrying the organization from 1915 to 1930.)

In the years before 1915, the Elks had always opposed any effort to form state associations of the order, with any legislative powers, preferring to maintain control in the national body.

There had been agitation for some years to form such state associations. In 1907, the Grand Lodge agreed that they had no objections to reunions and friendly gatherings.

The associations were given limited powers in 1915, when they granted the right to propose new statutes or amendments to the constitution, to review applications for dispensations for a new lodge, and to advise national officers.

**Charities Performed**  
Since that time, the associations have performed various charitable works. The California association aids crippled children, and contributes \$100,000 annually for cerebral palsy victims.

During World War I, the Elks set out to aid the war effort in various ways. The organization set up a million dollar fund to be placed in a war relief fund.

Equipment for French base hospitals was provided, and a reconstruction hospital with 700-bed capacity was built for soldiers in Boston. A community house for families of soldiers at Camp Sherman, O., was founded in 1918. Recognizing the services of the Salvation Army, the Elks donated \$60,000 to them for post-war relief.

**Veterans Aided**  
After the war, the Elks aided in vocational training of veterans. They donated \$10,000 to the European Relief Council through Chairman Herbert Hoover.

Commemoration of Mothers' Day was begun in 1917, with a special ceremony presented on the second Sunday of May in each year.

The charitable programs of the Elks were combined in the Social and Community Welfare Committee in 1919, which supervised various charitable activities of the group. These varied from aid in epidemics to distribution of Christmas baskets.

In 1928, nearly three million dollars was spent on activities of this committee.

**Membership Drops**  
For the first time in its history, the Elks showed a drop in membership in 1925. The drop continued steadily until 1937, apparently accentuated by the depression.

From a high of 839,429 in 1924, the number of Elks de-

clined to 466,520 in 1936. The number of lodges dropped from a high of 1420 to 1359.

After World War II, the organization again showed a rapid growth. By 1947, it had passed the 1925 figure, and in 1952, had nearly 1,100,000 members. Lodges numbered 1599.

Communism first became an issue among Elks with a 1919 case involving a member of the Order who openly avowed that he was a Bolshevik. The grand lodge recommended his expulsion.

**Communism Denounced**  
In the years immediately preceding World War II, several grand exalted rulers of the Order were active in denunciation of Communism. Grand Exalted Ruler Michael F. Shannon, of Los Angeles, appeared at the Capitol in 1935 with a petition bearing many thousands of signatures advocating an anti-Communist legislative program.

The Elks were active in sponsoring an essay contest on "Why Democracy Works" after World War II, and printed a number of anti-Communist articles in their magazine.

The Order began consideration of a national headquarters and memorial building in 1920. The building was finally dedicated in 1946 in Chicago, Ill. It was designed as a memorial to the 1000 Elks who were killed during World War I.

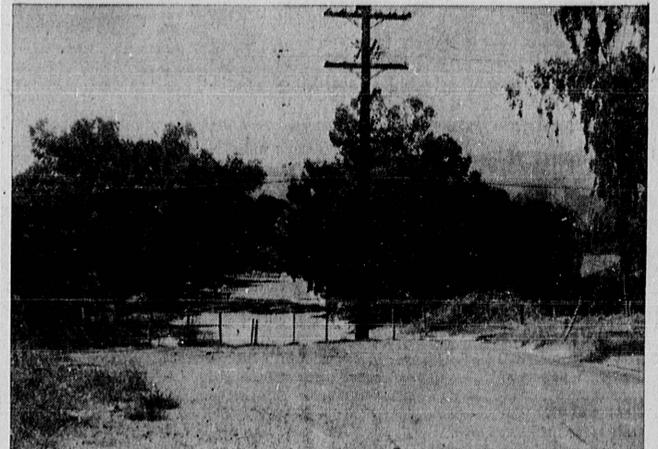
**Bronze Elks Guard**  
Flanked by great bronze Elks at the entrances, the building is of marble, and has many statues and paintings on the interior.

In 1946, the building was rededicated to the memory of Elks who had been killed during World War II.

During the years of its existence, there had been some 29 private publications, designed for Elks, and published by Elks.

**Magazine Established**  
In 1922, the Grand Lodge voted to establish an official magazine, called "The Elk," which has been in publication continuously since that date. All official Elk business and reports are carried in this publication, as well as various other features.

No Trespassing



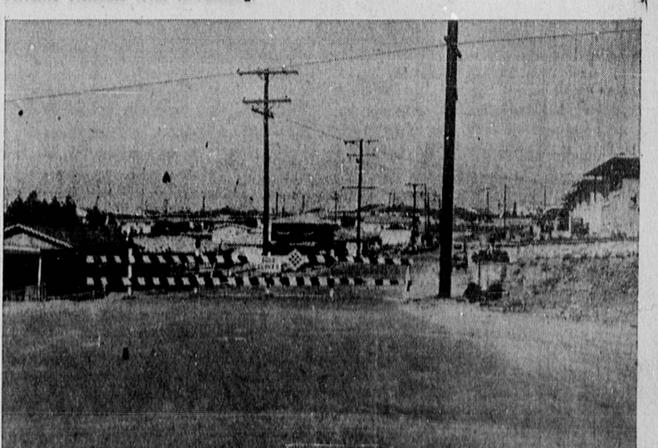
. . . These posts on Via Colusa will permit bicycle traffic but are strong enough to deter any autos from entering Palos Verdes.



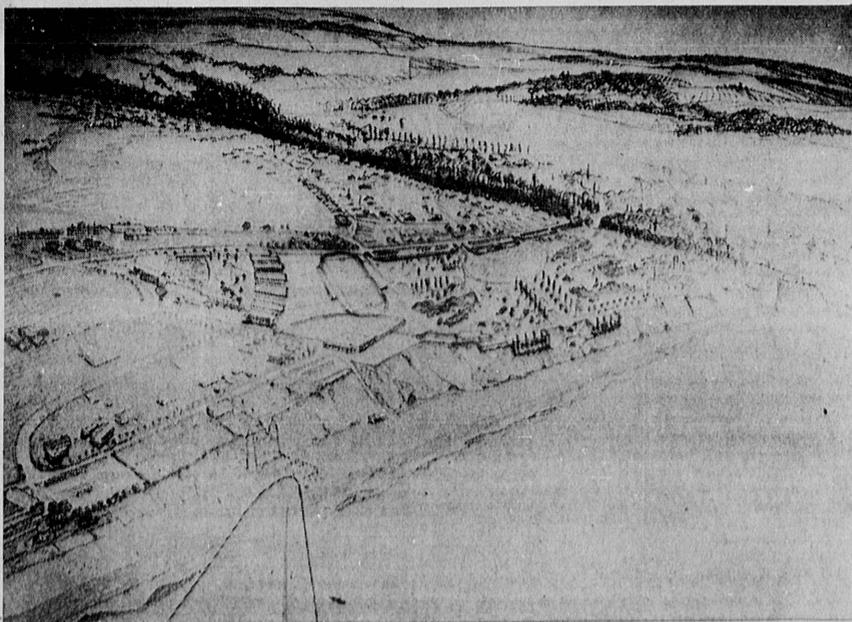
. . . A similar situation exists on another Torrance frontier, at Via Pasqual. Here Palos Verdes has shut off a through street.



. . . A hedgerow has been added to the "iron curtain" thrown up across via Alameda to keep Torrance residents from encroaching.



. . . Still up is this barricade thrown across Palos Verdes Blvd. where it enters a one-half block strip of Redondo Beach.



**BEACH OF THE FUTURE . . .** This drawing shows how Torrance Beach could be improved into a picnic-recreational center. Drawn by William Woollett, city-retained architect, it shows what facilities could be placed on the beach if money were made available. A swimming club and pool (under airplane wing) and an esplanade further up

the beach would be features of shoreline activity. On bluffs above the beach an amphitheater, facing two ways (left center), a football field, baseball diamond, picnic grounds, and outdoor bowl could make a highly attractive park, Woollett believes. Parking facilities would also be included in plans.

(Herald Photo)